

Massive Attack Releases Soviet-Era X-Ray Vinyl for Anti-Censorship Collaboration

July 04, 2019



Alterna2 / Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

Soviet fans of forbidden Western music used to [smuggle](#) records pressed into used X-ray film, a practice that lent them the name “music on bones.”

Now, a Western anti-censorship collaboration has [revived](#) the practice, with acts like the British trip-hop band Massive Attack putting out unreleased material on X-rays. Anti-Kremlin punk band Pussy Riot and U.S. philosopher Noam Chomsky are also attached to the project, whose proceeds will go to a Dutch-based “unconventional research” charity.

Embed:

Just like their Soviet predecessors, the records can only be played 10 to 15 times before the audio disappears.

Massive Attack's contribution includes a cover of Soviet punk rocker [Yegor Letov](#)'s anti-Soviet anthem "[Everything Is Going According to Plan.](#)" Performed live with filmmaker Adam Curtis in 2013, the song [appeared](#) online six years later last week.

Related article: [British Musician Tells Story of Russian Records on Bones](#)

The public can [bid](#) on 10 original copies of the X-ray record, which have been engraved by The Bureau of Lost Culture, a project of London musician Stephen Coates.

An 11th copy will be archived at the University of the Underground charity's so-called "Library of Dangerous Thoughts."

Massive Attack has sold more than 11 million copies of their five studio albums since 1991.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/07/04/massive-attack-releases-soviet-era-x-ray-vinyl-for-anti-censorship-collaboration-a66284>